



**St. John the Baptist**  
Catholic Primary School

*We will prepare the way by loving, living and learning with the Lord*

# Newsletter

This half term's virtues are:

Friday 06.09.19

*Grateful*

*and*

*Generous*



## Welcome Back

Welcome back, I hope you all had a wonderful break. It has been a great start to the new academic year, with children arriving to school looking extremely smart in their school uniform, a big 'thank you' to parents/carers for their

support. Please be reminded that all children must be in school before 8.55am, when the gates close, punctuality and being ready to learn is key to a successful start to the day.

I would also like to say a big 'welcome' to our new Nursery and Reception children, who I am sure will thrive and enjoy their time here at St John's. I'm really looking forward to getting to know you all.

I am confident that by working together we can ensure that this academic year will be a successful one, providing our children with an enriched school life and wonderful experiences.

### **Attendance**

As I am sure you will agree, attendance is key to children having the best educational opportunities, so please aim to ensure your child/ children attend school every day. Our whole school attendance target is 97%, but did you know that having 97% attendance still means that your child would still have been off school for 6 days and lost 30 hours of learning?

Attendance of 90% or below is known as 'persistent absence.' In reality, 90% attendance across an academic year is the equivalent of 19 days absent and 95 learning hours lost! Families who fall below 90% attendance will be required to attend meetings in school; may be contacted by CSAWs and could ultimately face court action and fines.

So let's work together to give our children the best possible chances at success. Your support in this area will be very much appreciated.

### **New School Hours**

As I'm sure you're aware, the school will now close at 2.00pm every Friday. Any child not attending our additional sports club for families with working parents or those in full time education, must be collected promptly at 2.00pm. We will follow our 'Uncollected Child Policy' for any child who is not collected at 2.00pm. This policy is available to read on our website.

## STARS OF THE WEEK!

Congratulations to Daisy H in Year 2,  
and Billy M  
in Year 3.

we're all really proud of you.

This week's virtues awards were given to

Tia S	Reception
Aisha Mc	Year 1
William N	Year 2
Kloe G	Year 3
Briana Mc	Year 4
Ini A	Year 5
Camila P-B	Year 6

For being grateful and generous.



### Attendance

Our school strives for 100% attendance. This week the class with the highest attendance was Reception and Year 5 with 100%

*Well done!*




### Ready to learn Award

Congratulations, our most punctual class this week was class Year 5.



### Birthdays

Happy birthday this week to: Kai A, Elisha I, Jacob K and Georgie C.

**Solihull  
Parenting  
Team** 

Solihull Parenting Team are offering a range of parental courses and group sessions during the Autumn term, including online courses for Solihull residents.



If you are interested and would like further details please feel free to take a booklet from our reception area.

Thank you.

A promotional poster for an open evening at John Henry Newman Catholic College. The background is a photograph of the college's modern architecture with large windows and a prominent copper-colored cross sculpture in the foreground. The date 'THURSDAY 12 SEPTEMBER' is written in large red letters. The event details 'JOHN HENRY NEWMAN CATHOLIC COLLEGE OPEN EVENING DOORS OPEN AT 4:45PM' are in yellow. The bottom section has a red background with white and yellow text for the address, presentations, and date.

**THURSDAY  
12  
SEPTEMBER**

**JOHN HENRY NEWMAN CATHOLIC  
COLLEGE  
OPEN EVENING  
DOORS OPEN AT 4:45PM**

**CHELMSLEY RD  
CHELMSLEY WOOD  
BIRMINGHAM  
B37 5GA  
T: 0121 770 5331  
E: OFFICE@JHNCC.ORG**

**PRESENTATIONS BY THE  
PRINCIPAL AT 5:00PM,  
6:00PM, 7:00PM**

**SEPTEMBER  
12**

[WWW.JOHNHENRYNEWMANCATHOLICCOLLEGE.ORG.UK](http://WWW.JOHNHENRYNEWMANCATHOLICCOLLEGE.ORG.UK)



## Dates for your Diary

### Friday 25th October

2.00pm - Break up for October half term

### Monday 4th November

All day - Inset Day (school closed to children)

### Tuesday 5th November

8.55am - Children return to school

### Friday 20th December

2.00pm - Break up for Christmas holiday

### Monday 6th January

All day - Inset day (school closed to children)

### Tuesday 7th January

8.55am - Children return to school

## Safeguarding Support



Teach your child about evaluating information and being critically aware of information found online.

Most children use the internet to improve and develop their knowledge in relation to schoolwork and personal interests. Children should be aware that not all information found online is correct, accurate or relevant. Show your child how to check information they find by comparing it to alternative sources on the same topic. Show them trusted sites they can use to compare information.

## Online Safety - tip of the week!

*Online safety hero says...*



*Agree a clear set of rules about screen time to make sure your child isn't spending too much time on their devices.*

*#screentime*



## Twenty-third Sunday in Ordinary Time

### Education Sunday

The theme for this year's Education Sunday is 'Form and Flourish'. Education Sunday is one of the oldest Days of Special Prayer in England and Wales so please make every effort to attend Mass on Sunday. Take time to reflect with your child on how lucky we are to have free education for all and the opportunity to grow and develop our personal God-given skills and talents.

*Guiding Lord, you are the way, the truth and the life - so may we follow you all the days of our lives.*

In this Sunday's gospel, Jesus tells the crowds two short stories to explain what being a disciple means, and to show us that if we want to follow him we must give up everything

The first story is about a man who wants to build a tower. He must work out the cost to make sure he has enough money and resources to finish the job. The second story is about a king who is going to war. He must first count his soldiers and resources to make sure he can win the battle.

In both stories the message is clear: those who begin a big task or project need to be prepared to see it through to the finish, it needs to be done properly. Here Jesus is telling us that following him and being a disciple is something that we have to see through to the finish. We need to follow Jesus always and this isn't always easy, because we are often distracted by other people or by thinking about what we want, rather than about what Jesus wants for us.



Throughout our lives as followers of Jesus we might have to choose to do what Jesus wants even if it means not always being popular. It is hard but God is with us all the way to help and guide us.

How will you follow Jesus this week at home or in school? See if you can try to do one thing to show that you follow him, and finish it, even if it is difficult. What will that be?

*Dear Lord, Thank you for our school and all of the opportunities we have here. Help us to remember your dream for us, to love you and know that you love us. Amen*

*Have a lovely weekend.*

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*I. Gallagher*

Mr I. Gallagher  
Headteacher